

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant(s)

: Mukai et al.

Customer No.

21003

Serial No.

10/692,766

Confirmation No.

8943

Filed

10/24/2003

Group Art Unit

: 3682

Examiner

: Thomas R. Hannon

For

Hydrostatic Gas Bearing

SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

I hereby certify that this paper is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as First-Class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450,

April 6, 2006

Date of Deposit

Gary M. Butter
Attorney Name

33,841

PTO Reg. No.

Signatura

April 6, 2006

Date of Signature

Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.56 and 1.97(c), applicants bring to the attention of the Examiner the documents listed on the attached Form PTO-1449 and respectfully request that the listed documents be considered by the Examiner and made of record in the above-captioned application. Copies of the documents listed on the attached Form PTO-1449 are enclosed herewith. A copy of the Search Report issued on March 1, 2006 in co-pending European Application EP03023954 is also enclosed.

Applicants respectfully submit that no item of information contained in the information disclosure statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office

in a counterpart foreign application, and, to the knowledge of the person signing the certification after making reasonable inquiry, no item of information contained in the information disclosure statement was known to any individual designated in § 1.56(c) more than three months prior to the filing of the present information disclosure statement.

This submission does not represent that a search has been made or that no better art exists and does not constitute an admission that the listed documents are material or constitute "prior art." If the Examiner applies the documents as prior art against any claim in the application and applicants determine that the cited documents do not constitute "prior art" under United States law, applicants reserve the right to present to the Office the relevant facts and law regarding the appropriate status of the documents.

Applicants further reserve the right to take appropriate action to establish the patentability of the disclosed invention over the listed documents, should the documents be applied against the claims of the present application.

Applicants believe no fee is due in connection with this submission. If any additional fee is due, or if any overpayment has been made, the Commissioner is authorized to charge any such fee or credit any overpayment, to our Deposit Account No. 02-4377.

Respectfully submitted,

BAKER BOTTS L.L.P.

By:

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APR 1 1 2006

Form PTO-144 (1) S. Department of Commerce (REV. 2-82) Patent March demark Office	Atty. Docket No. A36049 (074224.0122)	Serial No. 10/692,766	
INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT	Applicant Mukai et al.		
(Use several sheets if necessary)	Filing Date 10/24/2003	Group 3682	
	Examiner Thomas R. Hannon		

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

Exam Initial	No.	Document No.	Publication Date	Country	<u>Translation</u> Yes No
	1.	02/12742	02/14/2002	WO	
	2.	2845580	04/26/1979	DE	
	3.	0382096	08/16/1990	EP	
	4.	03213718	09/19/1991	JP	
	5.	The second secon			

NY02:544709.1		
Examiner	Date Considered	

^{*} Examiner: Initial citation considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.